

# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

10 MAY 1962  
~~TOP SECRET~~

50X1

1. Laos

a. The routed Nam Tha forces, still some 30 miles and 2-days' march from their intended haven at Ban Houei Sai near the Thai border, remain under enemy pressure.

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

50X1

#### 4. Israeli-Syrian tension

The seeds of a new clash in the Lake Tiberias area are contained in the continuance by the Israelis of their armed patrols on the lake, an action which the chief of the UN Truce Supervision Organization labels "aggressive and provocative." The Syrians have been showing some restraint by keeping their fishermen off the disputed lake, but the Syrian chief-of-staff says his forces will open fire on the Israelis if the patrols do not stop within 2 weeks.

50X1

5. Congo

UN representative Gardiner has returned to Leopoldville with Tshombé's 50X1 reply to Adoula's proposals regarding the next round of talks. Neither Adoula nor Embassy Leopoldville finds any grounds for optimism in Tshombé's counterproposals, but Gardiner, possibly basing his judgment on his reading of Tshombé's present attitude, is far less gloomy about the prospects for some meeting of minds.

6. Guatemalan president's schemes for anti-Castro army

Ydigoras, although somewhat diverted lately by his domestic troubles, is still spouting ideas about setting 50X1 up a force, "independent" of the US, consisting of 20,000 Cuban exiles, 10,000 Central Americans and 10,000 Europeans. Where the Europeans would come from is a mystery, but there seems to be some support for the project elsewhere in Central America.

50X1  
We had heard previously that Ydigoras had planned to outline his scheme to President Kennedy during his postponed visit to Washington last month.

NOTES

- A. Premier Ben Khedda's speech on the Algerian situation yesterday was notable for its moderation. Although he warned the Europeans that their actions now would determine their future in Algeria, he told his Moslem followers not to take the OAS bait by answering terror with violence. [redacted] 50X1
- B. [redacted] a Soviet space venture within the next month [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] the event might be a capsule carrying two or three men. 50X1
- C. Czech [redacted] have lately been showing characteristics which could be symptomatic of civil disturbances. 50X1  
[redacted] This adds weight to the reports of demonstrations over food shortages which we noted yesterday. 50X1
- D. Reaction in Panama to a newsleak that President Chiari has been invited to Washington has been quiet. The press, however, has linked the invitation to reports that Secretary Rusk has ruled out treaty changes and there is every likelihood that the Canal treaty theme will be developed on an ascending scale as the time for the visit nears. [redacted] 50X1
- E. Brazilian Foreign Minister Dantas is scheduling a visit to the USSR, probably late this year. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] for ratification of a new economic aid agreement to augment the existing three-year trade pact which expires in December. [redacted] 50X1
- F. [redacted] 50X1
- G. Tito, his gorge rising over Yugoslavia's economic difficulties, a noticeable outcropping of regionalist tendencies, and ideological backsliding among party members, is hinting that a good-sized purge may be on the way. [redacted] 50X1

WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--9 MAY 1962

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the United States Intelligence Board concludes that:

No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

Laos: The seizure of Nam Tha has compromised the RLG position in all northern Laos, including the defense of Luang Prabang. Enemy pressure continues on RLG troops withdrawing from Nam Tha. Enemy actions against other RLG-held areas are probable. Lao government positions in southern Laos remain vulnerable, and the enemy retains the capability to move against any of the population centers with little warning.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

I.

[REDACTED]

50X1

II.

[REDACTED]

50X1

[REDACTED]

50X1

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE